

XXVIII.—Description of a new Species of Calliste, and of a new Humming-bird of the Genus Heliangelus. By A. von PELZELN, Hon. Memb. B.O.U.

+ CALLISTE ALBERTINÆ.

C. clare viridis, capite et mento summo rufo-castaneis, nucha flavescente, torque distincta nulla, campteriis rufo-castaneis, dorso postico et gastræo cæruleis, tibiis pallide rufis, rostro superiore nigrescente, inferiore corneo, pedibus cærulescenti-cinereis. Longit. 5'', alæ 2'' 8'', caudæ 1'' 10''.

+ *Tanagra gyrola*? (part.), Natterer, MS. Catal. n. 804.

+ *Calliste gyroloides* (part.), Pelzeln, Orn. Bras. p. 207 (Salto do Girao.)

Hab. Brasilia, Rio Madeira (Salto do Girao) (*Natterer*).

C. gyroloidi (Lafr.) similis, sed differt capite magis rufescente, nucha flavescente absque torque distincta, et præsertim campteriis rufo-castaneis nec aureis; a *C. gyrola* dorso posteriore cæruleo et campteriorum colore, a *C. desmaresti* iisdem characteribus et gastræo cæruleo discrepat; cum *C. lavinia*, Cassin, colore campteriorum convenit, sed tectricibus alarum et remigibus viridibus et gastræo cæruleo diversa.

Head, cheeks, and chin rufous chestnut, upper surface generally green; neck yellowish green, but without a distinct collar; shoulders bright reddish chestnut; rump and under surface blue; under tail-coverts green; thighs pale reddish.

The bright reddish chestnut colour of the shoulders distinguishes this bird from all known species of the *gyrola* group, with the exception of *C. lavinia*; but the latter differs in having the wing-coverts and outer edges of the secondary and shorter primary quills rufous, and the undersurface green, with exception of a longitudinal stripe of pale blue on the throat and another on the middle of the abdomen.

During a recent visit of Herr Taczanowski to Vienna, when I showed him Natterer's collection of birds' skins, he pointed out the difference of this red-shouldered bird from the individuals of *C. gyroloides*, under which name it had been previously comprised.

Subsequent careful examination of this bird and comparison with the allied species persuaded me that it was really of a distinct species, not yet described.

I take the liberty of dedicating this species to Countess Albertina Marschall, daughter of Count August Marschall, to whom science owes so many important contributions.

Natterer's notes on the unique specimen (a male) are the following :—

“Salto do Girao, October 8, 1829, in high forest on a lofty tree, together with other little birds. The bird was somewhat moulting. Iris dark brown. Bill black, not glossy, the under maxilla light corneous grey. Feet dark bluish ash-grey, nails of the same colour. Length $5\frac{3}{4}$ ”, breadth $8\frac{1}{2}$ ”; the tail surpasses the wings 13 ”.”

For comparison I add Natterer's notes on a specimen of *C. gyroloides*.

“Male, adult, moulting, Marabitanas, March 1, 1831, in a high forest with other Tanagers. Iris dark brown. Bill blackish brown, the under maxilla on the basal half greyish. Feet dark bluish grey, washed with violet, nails dark grey. Length $5'' 10'''$, breadth $8'' 2'''$; the tail surpasses the wings $13'''$.”

Besides the male from Marabitanas, Natterer collected three other specimens of *C. gyroloides* on the Rio Xie.

HELIANGELUS TACZANOWSKII.

H. corpore supra viridi, pileo obscuriore, nucha et uropygio nitore aurescente, gula juguloque brunneo-nigris, plumis stricte albido, versus pectus latius viridi marginatis; gulæ macula rufo-violacea metallica vivide splendente, vitta pectorali transversali alba, circa $2'''$ lata; abdomine viridi medio ochraceo admixto, tectricibus caudæ inferioribus albis, centro nigro-brunneis; caudæ parum rotundatæ rectricibus mediis aureo-viridibus, reliquis brunnescenti-chalybeis, nonnullis macula terminali minutissima alba; rostro nigro, pedibus nigrescentibus. Long. $3\frac{1}{2}''$, alæ $2'' 4'''$, rostri a fronte $8'''$, caudæ $19'''$; rectrices extimæ $2'''$ breviores quam mediæ.

Hab. Bogota (Herr Münsberg).

Nearly allied to *H. clarissæ*; but the wings are considerably

shorter; the bill, on the contrary, is rather longer (in the male and young male of *H. clarissæ* the wing measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ "', the bill $7\frac{1}{2}$ "'); the colour of the throat is darker in the female of *H. clarissæ*, and the metallic spot more bluish violet*.

From *H. strophianus*, Gould, the bird here described differs in its inferior dimensions, considerably longer bill, and tail not emarginate, but somewhat rounded: the uropygium is not brownish. It is distinguished from *H. spencii* by its somewhat superior size and by the want of the silver-green spot on the front; the metallic colour has not a faint, but an extremely vivid gloss.

I have named this species after Mr. L. Taczanowski, the eminent ornithologist of Warsaw.

XXIX.—*Additional Notes on the Ornithology of the Republic of Transvaal.* By THOMAS AYRES. Communicated by JOHN HENRY GURNEY.

(Plate VII.)

[It will be seen by a reference to 'The Ibis' for 1876, p. 433, that Mr. Ayres has already recorded 192 species of birds as observed by him in the Republic of Transvaal; the additional species contained in the following list are numbered consecutively with the above, and have all been identified by me from specimens sent over by Mr. Ayres, except where the contrary is stated.—J. H. G.]

193. *CIRCUS CINERACEUS* (Mont.). Montagu's Harrier.

Circus pygargus (Sharpe's Layard, p. 12).

I found these Harriers very plentiful on my brother's farm, about fifteen miles from Potchefstroom, where they were hunting a large plot of ground from which the grass had been lately burnt, no doubt for insects or lizards killed by the fire; one of these Harriers which I opened had made a good meal of some Lark's eggs, shell and all.

* I have no females of *H. clarissæ* for comparison, and must therefore rely on Mr. Gould's representation in the 'Monograph of Trochilidæ,' and Mulsant's dissertation (Hist. Nat. Ois. Mouch. iii. 86).